

TOWN/VILLAGE OF HARRISON
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Stormwater Quarterly

20 Steps to Make Your Boating Water Cleaner

BOATING is a great way to spend a warm and sunny day. Enjoying a day on the Sound comes with its' responsibilities. Follow these simple suggestions to help keep our waters clean.

STASH YOUR TRASH...

- ⇒ Reduce the amount of packaging and plastic you take aboard;
- ⇒ Put a sturdy trash container on your boat;
- ⇒ Obey the law—always keep plastic garbage on the boat for onshore disposal or recycling;
- ⇒ Establish a boat rule that no trash gets thrown overboard—even cigarette butts;
- ⇒ Leave the water and marina cleaner than you found it—pick up trash left by others.

THE SCOOP ON POOP...

- ⇒ Use onshore restrooms before leaving shore;
- ⇒ Obey the law—keep untreated sewage out of the water;
- ⇒ If your boat has a head, equip it with a USCG Approved Marine Sanitation Device.

STOP THE DROPS...

- ⇒ Know how much your fuel tank holds and don't top off;
- ⇒ Make sure anyone fueling the boat knows which fill deck is for fuel;
- ⇒ Use oil absorbent pads to catch drips while handling the fuel nozzle between the dock and the boat;
- ⇒ Fill up your gas tanks while the boat is on the trailer, not in the water;

SO MANY FISH, SO LITTLE TIME...

- ⇒ Keep only those fish that you will eat today;
- ⇒ Practice catch and release techniques to insure the survival of those fish you toss back;
- ⇒ Use circle hooks;
- ⇒ Consider joining a tag and release program that provides long term data to fishery managers.

MAINTAIN YOUR BOAT...

- ⇒ Regularly scrub your decks with fresh water and a brush to reduce the need to use heavy cleaners;
- ⇒ Try to do large cleaning and maintenance jobs while the boat is out of the water;
- ⇒ Ask your marina or underwater diver to recycle used zincs;
- ⇒ Use a hard (not ablative) anti-fouling paint if you plan on scrubbing the boat bottom while in the water.

HAPPY BOATING!

Source: Boat U.S. Foundation

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